

**DESTINATION AND TRANSPORT
DURING THE CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19) PANDEMIC**

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Section 14-10

Destination and Transport for Patients During the Coronavirus (COVID-19) Pandemic

Purpose: To direct patient transport and destination for patients and to conserve resources during the COVID-19 pandemic.

- I. Decision to transport a patient by ambulance or other means will be based on
 - A. Patient condition
 - B. Resource availability
 - C. Medical Control
- II. Ambulance Transport
 - A. Patient (or patient's authorized decision maker) destination requests will be honored if ALL of the following are met:
 1. The facility has appropriate resources and capabilities to care for the patient
 2. Transport time does not remove the transporting unit from its geographic service area for longer than a closer facility with capability to treat the patient
 - B. The receiving facility should be notified of the incoming patient as early as practical
 - C. Destination facilities may be facilities other than emergency departments or surgical centers per direction of medical control depending on current system capacity and clinical status of patient (e.g., low acuity)
- III. Emergency Departments may need to go on diversion (via EMResource) if it is determined they have insufficient capacity or internal disaster
- IV. Specialty care patients will be transported to an appropriate facility, (stroke, STEMI, Trauma, etc.) per applicable protocol
- V. Final destination determination, if in question, will be from online medical control physician.

